[*From the National Intelligencer.*]

THE LATE CONGRESS.

Broken up into rival factions as the ultra-Democratic (called Locofoco) party is in the struggle of its Presidential candidates for ascendency, its different organs, too happy apparently to find a single political topic upon which they can agree, are unanimous and clamorous in their denunciation of the Whig Congress, whose term has just expired. By persons whose judgments are, in some cases, utterly blinded by their prejudices, and by others who want the power of mind to discriminate between the bad and the good that Congress has done, the Whigs are berated and abused without rhyme or reason, and without any attempt to show in what particulars they have erred.—Such vague and wholesale condemnation shows only ill will and worse temper and is not entitled to reply.

To the general character of merely malignant or frothy declamation against Congress, there are, of course, some exceptions; amongst which we noted and laid aside for use, some days ago, an article in the New York Evening Post in which something like specification of the misdeeds and omissions of the Whigs is attempted, in justification of the reproaches cast upon them.

The article to which we refer sets out as follows:

"THE REIGN OF THE WHIGS.—Congress closed its session yesterday. The Whig dynasty is ended. In two short years the standard bearer has fallen, the log cabins have been sold for taxes and the hard cider changed to vinegar." It continues thus: "Alas! all their professions, their union, their log cabins their hard cider, and their coons, have shared the same melancholy disastrous fate."—And it closes its specific charges against the Whigs as follows: "We might go through the whole list of their public acts, & compare them with their promises, and each would prove not only a failure, but a disastrous one to the country."

From a journal so distinguished as the *Post* is not merely by its position at one of the great central points of what it calls Republicanism, but by the acknowledged abilities of an accomplished editor, one might have expected, surely, if not something of candor towards the conduct of an opposite party, at least some gleam of public feeling, some token of patriotic regret, over the disasters which it paints—disasters certainly as well those of the county at large as of the Whig party in particular; and over which, nevertheless, the Post exults instead of deploring them. A melancholy omen must we hold it, and fit to cast a double gloom over whatever is sombre in public affairs, when a party whose long career of misrule and havoc had [illegible] interruption flattering itself with the hope of re ascension into its former power of mischief, announces, with evident gratification, that the work of good which had been promised has failed; that the glad hopes which dawned upon us in 1840 have again been completely overcast; that the Whig success has been but a glimpse of sunshine swallowed up in a deeper gloom: and that, in short, the country remains in a state of depression and distress almost as forlorn as when Locofocoism, yet unrebuked, ruled and ruined the land.

Let us, however, examine more nearly the long indictment which the *Post* prefers against the whigs. It strikes us that there are few counts in it which the Grand Inquest of the country will not *ignore*, as soon as it has had time to scrutinize them, either because what is alledged is not proved, or because, when proved, nothing wrong is established for which Whigs are justly reponsible; unless it be admitted to be wrong in them to repeal the Bankrupt Law in defiance to the will of the supposed majority of the People.

First, the *Post* announces that "the Whig dynasty is ended." Well, be it so; but what dynasty, then has begun?—A Democratic one? Of course; for why else should the country be called on for a Locofoco jubilation? Surely the party which holds that there is no shelter for the public good except under the shadow of its wing cannot be thus hailing any thing less than the triumphant re-establishment of its own principles! Yet can the acquisition of a majority in the more popular branch of the National Legislature (all that the "Democrats" can boast of, if even of that) amount to a change of Dynasty? For our part, we have always looked upon that royal term as applicable to the Executive, not the Legislative power; so that any thing which could be called a whig dynasty ended when the present Chief Magistrate placed himself in opposition to the party which brought him into power, and sought to gather around him a party of his own.

If, then, the Whig party have lost the control of public measures, have the Locofocos found it? Not yet. *Our* troubles may be ended, but theirs are just beginning. Hitherto "the fixed constitutional fact" has wrecked those measures which the Whigs *deemed* most efficient of public good. Are not *our* opponents granting them all the success they claim, *now* to encounter it? Do they hope for better success in the conflict with Executive power?

But the *Post* proceeds to say that two short years have sufficed to dissolve the whole Whig power; and then it enlarges with vast satisfaction upon the slender degree in which Whiggery has been able against the whole force of the Executive power and of a strong and unscrupulous opposition, to cure in two years all the ill that 'Democracy' could inflict in twelve. There are taunts that carry with them the noblest compliments.—Such is that of the *Post* when it measures two years of lamed and maimed Whig power against twelve of unencumbered, unembarrassed, almost irresistible Locofoco ascendancy. The *Post* insists that the Whigs are responsible for the failure to accomplish, in a brief space, all those promises which they and the public, in their distress had ejaculated with all the fervor of a sick man's vows. In thus claiming performance, where really nothing was fairly to be claimed of the Whigs but the sincere and hearty effort to keep their promises, the *Post* certainly pays a high tribute of praise to the assurance which our very adversaries felt of the good faith in which those hopes were held up to the country. Herein the fate of the two parties is any thing but equal. When the Whigs promise, the promise is remembered and performance expected; but who so simple as to recur to the studied, the intentional delusions with which Locofocoism cheats its dupes, unless perhaps, it be to ridicule such empiricisms as the golden stream, the pet bank league or the sub-Treasury to which no treasure was ever confided?

But, besides this virtue of being kept in public memory, the Whig promises have another peculiarity: they are sometimes performed to a very remarkable extent. Witness the important facts exhibited in the report on the finances which we placed before our readers some days ago, (hereafter more particularly alluded to,) from which it appears that during this unhappy "Whig reign of two years" the public expenditures have already been reduced to about *one half* of what they were under the palmy days of Democratic rule. Oh woful Whig 'failure!" And most 'disastrous to the country!" How deplorably insignificant is such a reform as this, within two years, in comparison with what Locofocoism accomplished in twelve, or is yet to bring about with the returning dynasty, the hope of whose second advent the *Post* holds out in glee and gladness to its readers!

The *Post* next inveighs against the official proscription put in practice by the Whigs. To one who remembers General Jackson's famous axiom of rotation in office, or who knows any thing of the great precept of the New York school, 'to the victors belong the spoils," there is an amiable unconsciousness in the *Post's* complaint which is most delectable. One would think, positively, that it was some fragment out of the politics of King Saturn's reign in Italy, or from some citizen of one of the ideal Republics which the Greek philosophers loved to erect. The future commentators who puzzle over the just, the patriotic, and the liberal context, will hardly find much internal evidence that will connect it with what the party for whom it is written have been doing for some twelve years past, and the general operation of official extermination to which, in the *Post's* own State, they have just subjected the amount of private business transacted."

The Whig Congress deserves this credit, but it deserves credit also for much more than this. It is entitled to the praise of having, through a series of labors and difficulties never in any sort approached by any proceeding Congress, restored the public credit; replenished the Treasury; and reduced the appropriations for public expenditures to something like one half of the amount which they had reached during the Administration that preceded them.

This reduction of the amount of appropriations and consequently of expenditure, is so remarkable, and so worthy of the whole attention of our readers, that we shall close these remarks with the plainest possible demonstration of the fact.

During the years which have elapsed since the close of Mr. Adams's Administration, the appropriations made by Congress as officially authenticated, were as follows:

Amount of Annual Appropriations from 1829 to 1842 inclusive, and exclusive of public debt and trust funds.

1829	$13 396 094 88	1836	$37 755 606 11
1830	14,884 346 07	1837	34,126,807 18
1831	13,588 651 39	1838	33,138,371 59
1832	18 397,751 82	1839	23,862,560 15
1833	22,625 217 95	1840	21 783,116 57
1834	20,968,992 49	1841	25 888,272 21
1835	17,830,651 40	1842	23 177 931 60

The average yearly appropriations in the four years of the Van Buren Administration, the reader will observe, were twenty six millions one hundred and fifty five thousand and seventy nine dollars.

The whole amount of appropriations made by the late Congress for the present year and the first half of the next year was, as the reader will learn from the subjoined official statement, but twenty four millions and a half of dollars that is to say, but a little more than sixteen millions of dollars a year!—much less than two thirds of the annual expenditure under the last democratic dynasty,' and less than one half of the expenditure during each of the two last years of General Jackson's or the first of Mr. Van Buren's Administration.

ABSTRACT OF APPROPRIATIONS made at the last session of Congress for the half calender year ending June 30, 1843—and the fiscal year ending June 30, 1844—that is, for eight en months.

Civil & diplomatic, 6 months, ending June 30. 1843	$1,896 068
Civil and diplomatic, year ending June 30. 1844	3,691.952
Military establishment	4 733 130
Fortifications	808,500
Naval establishment	9 136 781
Indian department	2,104 205
[illegible] revolutionary, and widows'	1,117,490
Pensions, naval	46,000
To give effect to the treaty with Great Britain	532.726
Improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, and Arkansas rivers	150,000
Construction of harbors on Lake Michigan	80 000
Payments to Georgia militia	19 400
To establish telegraphs	30.060
For survey of harbor of Memphis, Tennessee	3,000
Private claims, amount not ascertained, but which may be estimated at about	50,000
Various public objects, such as extra pay to officers of the Exploring Expedition, pay of Michigan militia called out to maintain neutrality on the Canadian frontier, and others which are directed to be settled, the amount not known but, when ascertained, to be paid at the Treasury, estimated at	100,000
	$21 499 255

[In arriving at these sums, fractions of dollars were not taken into the additions

The appropriations for the Post Office Department, which are paid exclusively out of the revenues of that Department, and therefore are no charge on the Treasury, amount to $4,545 000.]

From the National Intelligencer.

A NEW AND ODIOUS DOCTRINE.

That in the dividing of a State into districts for the election of Representatives to Congress, party considerations have been sometimes allowed to exercise an influence incompatible with fairness and justice, we all very well know. But, as far as we are informed and believe, the Message of the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, returning to the Legislature the *second* bill which it has offered for his approbation on the subject, contains the first official announciation of the doctrine that such an influence is contemplated by the Constitution of the United States! But, let the Governor speak for himself. Here is an extract from his Message:

"The Constitution of the United States 'does not it is true recognise the existence 'of political parties; but they are inherent 'in the very nature of our government, & 'will as certainly exist as the government 'itself. The provision confiding to the 'States the designation of districts for 'the election of members of the House of 'Representatives of the National Government, was intended to give to the respective States the power of suiting the 'arrangement of the districts to the condition of parties, and of course to the interests and convenience of the States."

And, assuming that the apportionment proposed by the bill which he returns is less favorable to his own party than it ought to be, the Governor adds:

"I have battled too long in the rank 'of the Democracy to see its standard 'struck down, without lifting my arm to 'avert it. Were I to do so, I should feel 'that I had betrayed the trust reposed in 'me by the Democracy of Pennsylvania, 'and was unworthy of its respect and confidence. My political career is drawing to a close, and I will not sully it by the open or covert abandonment of the rights 'of my Democratic fellow citizens."

What language to come from the mouth of a Governor of a State! One would suppose that he recognised no *other* "fellow citizens" than the "democratic" portion, a doubtful majority of the people of the State over which he presides.

It is insinuated moreover, by respectable authority in the Governor's own party, that even the avowed motive is not the true one for the veto upon this bill. The Pennsylvanian of Thursday, for example, says:

"The veto itself has not yet come to 'hand, so that we have no further knowledge of the reasons given for this course 'on the part of the Executive than the 'brief and hasty notice furnished by our 'correspondent. It was our impression, 'however that the bill as passed was framed with fairness, and was calculated to be received with satisfaction by the State 'generally.—It may be that we were 'mistaken in this and we therefore wait 'for the arrival of the veto message to 'judge whether there are grounds for a 'change of sentiment in regard to this 'matter."

A LIST OF ACTS,

Passed by the General Assembly of Maryland at December session 1842, principally relating to the Eastern Shore.

An Act authorising gates to be kept on the public roads in Talbot county, except those roads that the U. States mail passes over.

An Act for the relief of John N. Bowland, former sheriff and collector of Somerset county.

An Act to allow J. R. H. Horney late collector of Caroline county, further time to complete his collections.

A supplement to an act entitled an act to establish magistrates' courts in the several counties of this State, and to prescribe their jurisdiction, passed March, eighteen hundred thirty six, chapter two hundred and one.

An Act for the incorporation of the Neilson Lodge No. 39, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in Hillsborough, Caroline county.

An Act for the furtherance of justice in Somerset county.

An Act requiring the commissioners of primary schools of Worcester county to divide the funds for school district No 27.

An Act to protect the herring and shad fisheries in the Potomac river and Chesapeake bay.

An Act to repeal the first and second sections of an act passed December session, eighteen hundred and forty-one, chapter one hundred and eighty six, entitled an additional supplement to an act to regulate sales by public auction, passed at December session, eighteen hundred and twenty seven, chapter one hundred and eleven.

An Act to repair or rebuild a bridge over the north west folk of the Nanticoke river at Federalsburg between Dorchester and Caroline counties.

An Act to incorporate the Presbyterian Church at Rehoboth, Somerset county.

An Act to make valid and confirm the official acts of Charles Wesley Weaver a justice of the peace in and for Queen Anne's county, and State of Maryland.

An Act to change the time of electing trustees and clerks of Primary schools in Talbot county.

An Act to erect a bridge or causway over Knapp's narrows at Pilghman's Island in Talbot county.

An Act to regulate the manner of public advertisements in Somerset and Charles counties.

An Act for the relief of John S. Crockett, late sheriff and collector of Somerset county.

A supplement to an act, entitled an act to provide for the poor of Dorchester county, passed December session, eighteen hundred and thirty one chapter two hundred and fifty six.

An Act for the better collection of State and county taxes in this State.

An additional supplement to an act to provide for the appointment of commissioners for the regulation and improvement of Easton, in Talbot county and to establish and regulate a market at the said town, passed at November session, seventeen hundred & ninety; chap. 14.

A supplement to an act entitled an act to authorise the building of a bridge over Choptank river, in Caroline county, passed December session, 1834, chapter 153

A supplement to the act passed at December session, 1840, chapter 52, entitled an act to define the time within which the official bonds of clerks and registers shall be renewed.

An Act to grant William Rose, late collector of Talbot county, further time to complete his collections.

An Act to prevent swine running at large in the village of Chesterville, in Kent county.

An Act in relation to the estate of John T. Deford, late of Queen Anne's county deceased.

An Act to incorporate the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Chapel, in the village of Hillsborough, Caroline county.

An Act to lay out, open and make public a road in Worcester county.

A supplement to an act, entitled 'an act to abolish Magistrate' courts in Dorchester county, and to extend the jurisdiction of a single Justice of the Peace in said county, passed December session, eighteen hundred and forty one chapter one hundred and twenty-seven.

An Act further supplementary to an act entitled 'an act for the general valuation and assessment of property in this State and to provide a tax to pay the debts of the State, passed March session, 1841 chapter 23.

A supplement to the act to prevent gambling, passed at december session, one thousand eight hundred and twenty six, chapter eighty-eight.

A supplement to an act entitled an act to consolidate the free school fund, the State's donation, and the surplus revenue fund, so far as relates to district school number three, in the upper district of Caroline county, and for other purposes.

An Act for the relief of William W. Handy, of Somerset county.

An Act for the relief of Samuel Dickenson, of Worcester county.

An Act to authorise Judah Crockett, of Somerset county, to make a sale and conveyance of a small tract of land called 'Old Fields'

A supplement to an act entitled an act to give to the Chancellor and the County Courts as Courts of Equity jurisdiction in cases of divorce.

An Act for the promotion of education in Somerset county.

An Act for the benefit of Frances Richardson of Talbot county.

An Act relating to slaves.

An Act to extend the time of Thos. H. Ford, former sheriff of Queen Anne's county, to complete his collections.

An Act for the benefit of William R. Hayward of Dorchester county.

An Act directing the commissioners of the tax for Talbot county, to publish annually, a summary statement of their receipts and disbursements.

An Act to extend the time of Thomas W. De Coursey, former collector of Queen Anne's county to complete his collections.

An additional act relating to the Levy Court of Queen Anne's county.

An Act to authorize the Commissioners for Somerset county to summon persons before them.

An Act to allow Jesse Scott, late sheriff of Talbot county further time to complete his collections.

An Act to confirm an act, entitled an act to abolish certain offices on the Eastern Shore of this State, passed at December session, eighteen hundred and forty one, chapter two hundred.

An Act entitled an act to lessen the annual expenses of Dorchester county.

An Act to authorize the Trustees of Primary school number seventeen, in Queen Anne's county to sell and convey a portion of the school lot therein mentioned.

An Act supplementary to an act entitled an act to authorise the licensing of stock brokers, exchange brokers, & bill brokers & to regulate contracts for the purchase & sales of loans and stocks passed at December session eighteen hundred and forty one chapter two hundred and eighty two.

An Act further supplementary to an act entitled an act for the general valuation and assessment of property in this State, and to provide a tax to pay the debts of the State, passed March session 1841. chapter 23.

An Act entitled an act to abolish the office of Examiner General on the Eastern Shore of this State.

An Act to allow David G. Odell, former sheriff and collectors of Worcester county further time to complete his collections.

An Act to amend the Constitution of Maryland by taking from the Legislature the power of pledging the credit of the state in aid of works of internal improvement by any future issue of state bonds

An Act entitled an act to prohibit the formation of secret societies of negroes.

An Act to establish magistrates' courts in the several counties of this State, and to prescribe their jurisdiction so far as relates to Talbot county.

An Act to sell the State's interest in the Internal Improvement Companies, and to pay the debts of the State.

BALTIMORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The annual session of the Methodist Episcopal Conference commenced yesterday morning in Wesley Chapel, Sharp street. Nearly two hundred members are in attendance, though all were not present yesterday. The meeting was opened with the usual exercises of singing and prayer. The Conference was then regularly organized, the Rev. Bishop Waugh as President, and the Rev. Thomas B. Sargent and Rev. Wm. O. Lumsden as Secretaries.

Upon taking the chair Bishop Waugh delivered a brief, but pertinent and pleasing address upon the prospects of the Methodist Church the increase of her Ministers, and the business in prospective for the Conference.

The usual necessary committees were next chosen; after which the Rev. John A. Collins offered a preamble setting forth that a pewed church was about to be erected by a portion of the members of the Methoeist Episcopal Church in Baltimore city station; and that the establishment of such a building was contrary to the discipline of the church as set forth in part second, section 2nd; page 160.—The preamble was accompanied by resolutions expressive of the disapprobation of the Baltimore Annual Conference of the plan proposed of erecting a church with pews; and providing for the appointment of a committee to confer with the trustees of the proposed building and endeavor to dissuade them from the design of erecting any other than a church with free seats.

After the reading of the paper, the Rev. Mr. Slicer moved to lay the matter on the table and make it the special order of the day for Monday next. Upon this proposition considerable debate ensued and it was finally withdrawn. The question being on the preamble and resolutions, after some discussion, they were adopted by a vote of 93 to 9.

The hour fixed for the meeting of Conference is nine o'clock, A. M. One o'clock, P. M., was set as the hour of adjournment.

A committee of three were appointed to act as Stewards of the Conference; to make appointments for divine service during its session.

After the transaction of some other private business the Conference adjourned until this morning.

Baltimore Annual Conference. This body met yesterday morning at the appointed hour, 9 o'clock. After the usual exercises of singing and prayer, the minutes of the day before were read—The first business before the Conference being the examination of the members, the Rev. Isaac Collins submitted a motion that each member, upon his examination should be asked whether he was a member of the Odd Fellows' Society. After some discussion upon this motion, the Rev. D. Steele moved to lay it on the table, which was agreed to. The Rev. Mr. Slicer then submitted a resolution to the effect that the Conference disapprove, of its members associating themselves with Odd Fellowship, or any other secret society. Some little debate ensued upon this when the Secretary read from the minutes of the last Conference a rule which had then been adopted requesting members of the Conference who might have united themselves with the Odd Fellows, or any other secret associations, to separate therefrom. Mr. Slicer then withdrew his resolution.

The Rev. Mr. Mitchell, agent, if we err not, of the Bible Society, then rose and after some very pointed and forcible remarks upon the subject, submitted a resolution to the effect that the Conference decidedly censure any member who shall unite with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows—the Order of United Brethren—the Independent Order of Red Men—or the Independent Order of Screw Bolts, or any other Secret Society. After submitting the resolution Mr. Mitchell remarked that the first three had been already chartered by the Legislature, and there was no telling how soon the other might gain influence enough to be—The resolution was not seconded, and, fell as a matter of course, to the ground.

At this point of the proceedings the Rev. John A. Collins rose in his place and observed that he found an attempt had been made to report the proceedings of the Conference in some of the political papers of the day. He understood that there was, at that time, a person in the house, who was busy taking notes with a view of reporting the action of that body. For himself, the Rev. gentleman continued, he had no objection that the proceedings should be reported, but he wished that report correctly made; and he was sorry to say that, inadvertently, no doubt, so far it had been made incorrectly. If the party attending for that purpose would follow the course of the Secretary of the Conference he would doubtless, be unabled to make the report more correctly. There were things passing in that body which he would regret to see reported in the public papers. For instance, he would be very sorry to see the resolution offered by Bro. Mitchell reported—for himself he knew not who or what those Screw Bolts were; and he did hope that if any report was made it would be a correct one.

The Rev. Mr. Baer then offered a resolution that hereafter the Conference sit with closed doors. To this an amendment was proposed by the Rev. J. A. Gere, that the Conference sit with closed doors only during the examination of character. The Rev. H. Best moved to amend the amendment by providing that the Conference sit with closed doors only in case of trial or complaint. A motion was made, by a member, whose name we could not learn, to lay the amendment to the amendment on the table, which prevailed. The question recurring upon the amendment of Mr. Gere it was carried, and the resolution, as amended, was then passed. The committee on the examination of character not being ready to report, the President stated that the next business before the Conference was the examination of those remaining "on trial," or "probationers;" and it being decided by the Conference that this examination came under the resolution just passed, the Church was cleared, and the Conference went into the business with closed doors.

Balt. Clipper.

COURTS MARTIAL.—Mr. PEARCE, (of Md.) in his admirable report on the fine imposed upon Gen Jackson, by Judge Hall, of Louisiana, in discussing the legality of the order of Gen Jackson suspending the habeas corpus, states the following interesting cases:—

In England, it is well established that all courts of a military kind are held in strict subordination to the ordinary tribunals. These latter will take cognizance of any abuse of authority committed by courts martial, even upon a soldier who is liable to the military law. De Lolme, page 982, mentions a curious case, in which Lieutenant Frye, of the marines, who had been illegally convicted by a court martial in the West Indies, and was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment, meeting with the president of the court in England, sued him, and recovered a thousand pounds damages, the judge, at the trial, informing him that he might bring his action against any of the members of the court whom he could meet with. He accordingly instituted suits against two other members who were then in England, and sitting on another court martial. They were arrested just as the court broke up. This was resented by all the court as an insult. They met and passed resolutions which the judge advocate was directed to lay before the King. In these resolutions, they asserted that, by this proceeding, the order, discipline, and government of his majesty's armies, by sea, were desolved, &c. The altercation lasted a long time, but the military power were at last glad to submit, and sent a written apology to Chief Justice Willes, signed by seventeen officers admirals, and other members of the court. The judge, read their letter in open court and directed it to be recorded in the Remembrance Office, "as a memorial to the present and future ages, that whoever set themselves above the law, will, in the end, find themselves mistaken."

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